

REMARKS FOR DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR GARVER
4TH ANNUAL U.S. Space and Rocket Center HALL OF FAME CEREMONY & DINNER
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Speech as prepared for delivery

Thank you very much Stephanie. It's great to be back at Space Camp.

Thank you to Larry Capps (U.S. Space and Rocket Center CEO) for inviting me to speak and for leading the continuation of the Space Camp and Space Academy programs. These programs have been an inspiration to many students and educators, and have inspired me and my husband as well, but more about that later....

First congratulations to those we are here to celebrate for their incredible accomplishments and contributions to space--the Hall of Fame inductees.

And I also want to thank my long-time friend, Fred Ordway, who is sitting at my table, for his strong and consistent guidance during my early years in this field. He's also a friend and board member of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. Fred, your service to this field has helped and inspired a lot of people. I'll always be in awe of your knowledge. If you want to read about the history of the space program from the perspective of someone who was there, I highly recommend that you search out one of Fred's books such as the incredible book The Rocket Team.

There are also an impressive number of dignitaries here tonight, showing the importance of space in this community. Thank you for having me join you here. It is an honor to be asked to speak at this prestigious event.

I was a child of the Space Race, no doubt about it, and am still amazed and thrilled that we now live in a time when our former competitors are our partners.

The question is no longer whether or not to explore, it is how best to explore. Now we have this great example of international partnership being proposed to have a life extended until at least 2020.

It's also hard to believe that it's been almost a quarter century since my husband David and I went through the Space Academy Program.

We had just been married at the time. Yes, this is one of the first things we did as newlyweds. Not embarrassing?? And we're not the only ones. I understand that Francis French, honored here tonight, met his future wife at Space Academy Level II. Look out match.com.

Space was even part of our wedding. Most people give out matchbooks or something like that to commemorate the new couple. Us? We gave guests this button. "A spacial occasion." With the shuttle orbiting an apple. We even got married on Space Day, July 20.

My husband was -- still is -- a teacher, and both of us were heavily interested in space. So the two symbols seemed very appropriate to us.

But back to the Academy. Things may have changed since we attended, but back then, my new husband and I, we were shuffled off to separate dorms for men and women. Do they still do that for adults? I can't say I was traumatized, but it was one of the first sacrifices I made for the space program.

There was a test of knowledge to see who knew the most about space and to determine your placement on two crews that would compete against each other throughout our time at Camp.

You may know where this is going. I got just one question wrong, giving me a rating of Pilot, which I thought was pretty good. Dave, as it turns out, got none wrong and so received the rank of Commander. Luckily they did not put us on the same team.

However, Dave also received the award for "Most Spirited Camper" at the end of our week. He still has the award. I have to say, that irked me a little at the time. But now, who is the deputy administrator of NASA?

Seriously, we have always placed a high value on space exploration and education and the marriage of the two, which is one of the reasons we went to Space Camp and one of the reasons it means so much for me to be here tonight.

Not only is my husband an educator, but so is my only sibling, and my parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents were also. I come from a long line of teachers and am kind of the under-achiever of the group, but I like to think that a lot of things I've done and continue to do are bolstering education efforts and helping to not only get kids involved in science and engineering fields, but also keep adults interested in space exploration and increasing the overall scientific literacy of the American public.

I'm a big supporter of lifelong learning. In the broadest sense, the goal of the National Space Society, where I was executive director for over a decade, after all, is to educate the public about space.

I also was fortunate enough to spend time in Star City taking on the same training as cosmonauts. I know a lot of you have heard about this and I'm not going to go into a lot of detail about it, but my time in Star City was invaluable to me. It meant a lot to me to raise the profile of the individual in space exploration. Not as a pilot or an engineer (though of course those highly trained and dedicated individuals -- many of you -- are the backbone of our astronaut corps), not as an exceedingly wealthy person able to buy a seat on a Soyuz, but as an average citizen, albeit one with a space-themed wedding, remember. In addition to sincerely wanting to go to space, I wanted to show that space could one day be open to many, many more people than those who are able to access it today.

Everyone in this room knows about the transitional time in which we find ourselves. It's a once in a generation shift from the program we've been pursuing for nearly 40 years, the Space Shuttle, which will have flown for 30 years when it retires next year. It's a time when we plan our next path to the stars, and take steps to go even farther.

The Nation's leadership has not yet reached a consensus on the details about the specific path forward, but many of the proposed strategic priorities proposed in the NASA budget request are included to a significant extent in the various bills: technology development to give us capabilities far beyond what we have today,

increased lifespan for the International Space Station, greater commercial role in space exploration, greater support for Earth and other science, aeronautics and education, and providing the best value to the taxpayer.

I'd like to focus on one of the more controversial aspects of this proposed transformation, but one that is not as radical as it seems, the commercial aspect. NASA has been on this path since 1958. We are (we hope) on the cusp of achieving big things. A few companies (established and emerging) already have systems for transportation, many whose heritage is right here in Alabama. We will oversee these rockets to ensure that the highest possible safety standards are met. The U.S. has lost a large share of the commercial market. There is a growing market for launch services internationally, and by other U.S. government agencies and the private sector, both traditional markets and new ones. There is huge untapped potential for expanded markets, businesses, and jobs connected to launching cargo and eventually crew to orbit.

We believe it is time for the government to help to create a whole new sector of the economy that will produce jobs and innovation for years to come. This is precisely what has driven economic growth in this country for our entire history—government playing its critical role by investing in technology and industry doing what it does best—allowing us to spend less on operations and explore further into the universe. We're continuing this quest that began here in Huntsville 50 years ago.

Those of you who have taken a personal interest in space and have done things like go to Space Camp, even as adults, who continue to reach out to grade school kids and college kids and lifelong learners, who have dedicated your lives to opening the space frontier, are going to see a lot of our dreams fulfilled in the coming years.

As I said the good news is that we're debating how to do this, not whether or not we should, and that is progress. The shift is that the government may not need to be the operator of rocket systems whose sole purpose is to reach low Earth orbit anymore. We can facilitate other people who will do that for us. Meanwhile, we'll be focused on sending missions farther into the solar system and achieving other astounding new things that will, in turn, inspire future generations. Things like humans visiting an asteroid, or robots sending pictures back from a

destination we've never been such as the moons of Mars, and ultimately, the dusty soil of Mars itself.

Currently, the space world is caught up in the politics of Washington. The very word 'politics' has bad connotations. But I like being involved in politics which is public service. We have some politicians here tonight and I'm sure you feel the same way.

I've always felt we were privileged to live in a democracy, that's our process of deciding how to spend the public's dollars for the most benefit. My grandfather was a state legislator for 20 years, and from him I learned a lot about public service, negotiating among differing views, and trying to create an outcome that was good for as many people as possible.

If you don't like how the politics are playing out, you have the opportunity to get involved to make them better. That's my view. I deeply care about space development and the benefits it has brought to our country, and the promise it has for the future. It can unify us, it can bring out the best in us, it can build bridges across borders, and it can advance us as a people, both in spirit and technologically. And that's why I am so honored to serve at NASA.

At NASA, we're trying to help make the best use of the precious dollars the public has entrusted us with to make America a spacefaring nation, leading the world in the next great endeavor into the unknown, and leaving my kids, and maybe grandkids yet unborn (no hurry boys), a world with capabilities beyond what we know today.

So that is another value in NASA—setting audacious goals and reaching them—making a contribution. Being passionate about something and want to learn everything you can about it and make it part of your life. And it is my view that kids growing up today aren't that different from most of us, or the generations before us...they just want to make a contribution—leave the world better than they found it...Space is how many of us have chosen to make our contribution. I am awed and humbled by the weight of the accomplishments of the people in this room.

My fellow guests: astronauts Don Thomas, Al Worden, Owen Garriott, Jim Halsell, Hoot Gibson, Rhea Seddon, Dottie, and the MAX-Q band members Ken Cockrell, Chris Hadfield, Chris Ferguson, and Drew Feustel. Additionally, Rob Pearlman, you have become a staple at NASA launches, and we applaud how widely you disseminate information about the wonders of exploration.

Georg von Tiesenhausen, your service as a NASA engineer, and then your work with Space Camp to spark that passion in a new generation is exactly what we're here to honor.

The inductees into the Hall of Fame -- you've taken your passions and turned them into professions in science, education, military and the museum world, and then you've shared your experiences and touched the lives of young people around the world -- you are making your contribution and leaving the world better than you found it.

This is a great field, and I just want to try to assure you it's a great time to be in it. Charlie and I, and many of you, I'm sure, talk to a lot of kids. But many of you saw the Beloit mindset list for the class of 2014. Few in the class know how to write in cursive. "Caramel macchiato" and "venti half-caf vanilla latte" have always been street corner lingo. And during their lifetimes, Russians and Americans have always lived together in space.

Space Camp allows people of all ages to pursue the excitement of space exploration. By making technology development, inter-agency, private sector and international partnerships, and economic development cornerstones of our National Space Policy in order to assure the space program contributes to a better future. The people who come to Space Camp can see how a career in this field can make a difference. We need all of you who are helping to provide the excitement and value in order to assure the space program contributes to a better future.

Space Camp is a critical part of that future. You touch the core—people. Thank you for inspiring and educating generations of space explorers...whether some of us end up "exploring the halls of Congress" vs. the unique microgravity environment on the Space Station...I'm honored to be included. Thank you.

